



STATE OF MICHIGAN
RUTH JOHNSON, SECRETARY OF STATE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
LANSING

May 30, 2018

REVIEW OF NOMINATING PETITION

Kameshia D. Gant
Candidate for District Court Judge, 46th District

NUMBER OF VALID SIGNATURES REQUIRED: 400 signatures.

TOTAL FILING: 665 signatures.

RESULT OF FACE REVIEW: 0 valid signatures; 665 invalid signatures.

Total number of signatures filed:		665
Defective petition heading:	-	<u>665</u>
Face valid signatures:	=	0

Before a challenge was filed against Ms. Gant's nominating petitions, staff determined that the office designation printed in the heading of each petition sheet is defective, stating only she is "a candidate for the office of **Incumbent (Regular term) / January 1, 2025** (Title of Office/Term Expiration Date), **46th** (District, if any)." Significantly, this description omits any reference indicating that the candidate seeks the office of "Judge," or a "Judicial" position, or to be elected to the 46th District "Court."

Although staff recommends that the other two judicial candidates with heading issues¹ currently pending before the Board be certified as sufficient, Ms. Gant's petition heading does not clearly inform voters that she is a candidate for Judge. For example, both the 46th District Court and 46th State House District are situated in Oakland County, candidates may qualify for both offices by circulating nominating petitions, and both offices will appear on the ballot in 2018.

The challenge jointly filed by Karen Thornton and Johnathan Tillman overlaps the face review, in that it urges the Board to disqualify Ms. Gant due to the defect in the heading.

FINAL RESULT: 0 valid signatures.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Determine petition insufficient.

¹ See Staff Report for Paul Zybuski, candidate for Judge of the 39th District Court, whose petition heading reads, "**Judge 2025, 39th** (District, if any)," and Staff Report for James Osak, candidate for Judge of the 43rd District Court, who filed petitions with the heading, "**Judicial/Regular Position/Incumbent/Jan. 2025, 43rd** (District, if any)".